

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2747

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016

Buffer Stock of Pulses

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Ering Shri Ninong;Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar
Mansukhlal;Ghubaya Shri Sher Singh;Goud Dr. Boora Narsaiah;K. Shri Parasuraman;Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi;Mahajan Smt. Poonam
;Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Patil Shri A.T. (Nana);Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Rajoria Dr. Manoj;Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri
Rajesh;Ranjan Smt. Ranjeet;Rao Shri Konakalla Narayana;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Ray Dr. Ravindra Kumar;Sawaikar Shri
Advocate Narendra Keshav;Shiyal Dr. Bharati Dhirubhai;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar;Teacher Smt.
P.K.Sreemathi;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the price of pulses has continued to rise as the imports proved inadequate to bridge the shortage and if so, the details thereof and remedial steps proposed in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government has procured pulses from local farmers and contracted new imports to create buffer stocks and control prices, and if so, the details thereof indicating the production, procurement, import and buffer stocks during the last one year along with the agencies involved and the countries from where the pulses are being imported;
- (c) whether the high powered committee to review availability and price of pulses has suggested increasing of MSP/bonus for pulses and to create a larger buffer stock, and if so, the details and the present status of the proposal;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to distribute pulses through PDS, and if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum allocated, State-wise; and
- (e) the other steps being taken to improve availability and to control price of pulses in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) : The prices of major pulses except Chana dal have moderated over the last 6 months. Details of prices and steps taken to moderate prices of pulses are at Annexure.
- (b) : Yes, Madam. As per the 3rd Advance Estimates, the estimated production of pulses in 2015-16 is 17.06 million tonnes. As on 29.07.2016, Government through its agencies viz. Food Corporation of India, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India and Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium, procured around 1,19,471.611 MT of pulses from local farmers while import of 56,000 MT of pulses has been contracted through Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation of India from Myanmar, Mozambique and Canada. Accordingly, the procurement, including imports, for buffer stock as on 29.07.2016 was 1,75,471.611 MT.
- (c) : In a high-level review meeting on availability and prices of pulses, the re-consideration of methodology for fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP) for pulses and enhancing the buffer stock of pulses to 20 lakh tonnes through domestic and overseas procurement was recommended
- (d) : No such proposal is under consideration.
- (e) : The other steps include import of pulses through long-term contracts from pulses producing countries and enhancing domestic production of pulses through a number of plan schemes/programmes like National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), etc.
